

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 078966

10
ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

DRAFTED BY: S/S-O: JSWIHART
APPROVED BY: S/S-O: MTANNER
----- 034359
R 080815Z APR 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO CINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 078966

EXDIS, ADDEE HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOR POLAD

FOLLOWING REPEAT BONN 3072(DTG R/241711Z FEB 75)
ACTION SECSTATE INFO TEL AVIV ROME NATO

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 03072

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO SECDEF, CINCEUR, CNO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, IT, GW, US, IS
SUBJECT: PHM SALES TO ISRAEL

REF: A) STATE 21540; B) BONN 2188

1. AS OF FEBRUARY 22, FONOFF HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO ASCERTAIN
WHETHER THERE HAD BEEN ANY RECENT CONTACTS BETWEEN
ISRAELI OFFICIALS AND DEFENSE MINISTER LEBER RELATING TO
THE HYDRO-FOILS. OUR FONOFF CONTACT SAID THAT IN
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PAGE 02 STATE 078966

REVIEWING THE FILES HE HAD DISCOVERED REFERENCES TO

GERMAN-ITALIAN CONSULTATIONS WHICH TOOK PLACE ABOUT TWO YEARS AGO, APPARENTLY AS A RESULT OF SOME EXPRESSION OF ISRAELI INTEREST AT THAT TIME. THE PROVISIONAL REACTION THEN (NOT CLEAR WHETHER IT WAS COMMUNICATED TO THE ISRAELIS) WAS TO REJECT ANY SUCH ISRAELI REQUEST.

2. OUR FONOFF CONTACTS ARE AWARE THAT WE WOULD LIKE TO SORT THIS QUESTION OUT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AND THEY ARE CONTINUING THIS WEEK TO SEEK CLARIFICATION FROM THE MOD. IT IS NOT OBVIOUS TO US WHY THERE SHOULD BE SUCH CONFUSION, BUT IT IS UNDERSTANDABLE THAT FONOFF WANTS TO BE ABSOLUTELY SURE OF THE FACTS BEFORE IT STATES CATEGORICALLY THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO SUCH UNDERSTANDING AS THE ONE REPORTED TO DOD BY ISRAELI DEFENSE MINISTER PERES. SINCE THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS INITIATED INQUIRIES IN MOD, WE DO NOT WISH AT THIS TIME TO RISK CROSSING WIRES BY GOING DIRECTLY TO MOD OURSELVES. WILL REPORT AS SOON AS FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE.
HILLENBRAND UNQTE KISSINGER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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